



a program of

NORTHWEST NEW MEXICO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Northwest Regional Transportation Planning Organization (NWRTPO)

RTPO Joint Technical & Policy Committee Meeting

Wednesday, November 8, 2023

10:00 am

Virtual Meeting – Microsoft Teams

AGENDA

ROUTINE ITEMS:

Item #	Item	Presenter
I.	Call to Order and Introductions	Dorothy Claw, Chairman
II.	Action: Agenda	Dorothy Claw
III.	Action: Minutes – October 11, 2023 meeting	Dorothy Claw

ACTION ITEMS:

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Item #	Item	Presenter
IV.	Present: Progress with Annual Member Survey for FFY2023	Robert Kuipers
V.	Present: Progress with RTIPR	Robert Kuipers
VI.	Present: NMDOT Carbon Reduction Strategy	Sullivan Moore - NMDOT

REPORTS: (10-minute limit)

Please submit Written Reports for inclusion in minutes

RTPO Program Report (<i>significant news only</i>)	Robert Kuipers
Local Member Reports (<i>significant news only</i>)	By Entity
New Mexico Department of Transportation Reports (<i>significant news only</i>)	RTPO Liaison (Neala Krueger) Tribal Liaison (Ron Shutiva) District 5 (James Mexia) District 6 (Bill Santiago, Michael Neely)

NEW BUSINESS/OPEN FLOOR: MEMBERS & GUESTS (5-minute limit)

ANNOUNCEMENTS & NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, December 13, 2023 – Ramah Navajo Chapter, 434 BIA Rt. 125 from NM53 to Pine Hill, NM - (unless otherwise determined or virtual via MStTeams)

ADJOURNMENT

NWRTPO | Northwest Regional Transportation Planning Organization

Joint Policy & Technical Committee

NWRTPO Meeting Minutes

Wednesday October 11, 2023

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Virtual meeting executed via Microsoft Teams

Due to COVID-19 Pandemic

ATTENDANCE:

Local & Tribal Governments	
Entity	Representative(s)
Pueblo of Acoma	Raymond Concho – RTPO Vice-Chair; Dennis Felipe
Pueblo of Laguna	Anne Oandasan, Star Cheromiah
Pueblo of Zuni	Royce Gchachu, Roxanne Hughte
Navajo Nation	Margie Begay, Priscilla Lee
Ramah Navajo	Dorothy Claw – RTPO Chairman
City of Grants	Shannon Devine
City of Gallup	Clyde Strain, Alicia Santiago, Robert Hamblen
Village of Milan	Linda Cooke, Denise Baca, Felix Gonzales,
Cibola County	Kaci Bustos, Joseph Baca, Judy Horacek
McKinley County	Rodney Skersick, Yvonne Tso
San Juan County	Absent (Nick Porell)
Farmington Metropolitan Planning Organization – Ex-officio	Not in attendance

New Mexico Department of Transportation (NMDOT)	
Entity	Representative(s)
RTPO Liaison	Neala Krueger, Sullivan Moore
District 5	James Mexia, Amanda Nino
District 6	Bill Santiago, Michael Neely, Kyle Slim
Tribal Liaison	Ron Shutiva
DOT Central Regional Design Office	James Sanchez, Juan Archuletta,
Other NMDOT Staff / Guests	Priscilla Otter-Pilot (?) Gallup guest (no name provided)

Northwest Regional Transportation Planning Organization	
Northwest NM Council of Governments	Robert Kuipers

Tally Sheet – Attendance & Quorum

Total Full Attendance:	Member Entities:	NMDOT	RTPO	Guests (Transit)	Full Attendance Norm:	
	12	Normally 4-5: DOT Liaison, Tribal Liaison, District 5 & 6 Representatives		varies	17 - 20	
Attendance – this meeting:	Member Attendance:	NMDOT Attendance:	Staff:	Guests:	Attendance % this meeting:	TOTAL:
	7	5	1	2	75%	15

ROUTINE ITEMS:

Item #	Item
I.	Call to Order and Introductions. The meeting was called to order at 10:10 am, Robert Kuipers welcomed those in attendance, and proceeded with introductions approval of agenda and minutes. The virtual meeting was conducted via Microsoft Teams, due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
II.	Agenda: RTPO Staff provided an overview of the day’s agenda topics and Robert Kuipers called for a motion: ACTION: Linda Cooke - Milan motioned; Raymond Concho - Acoma seconded adoption of the agenda; all in favor – motion carried.
III.	Minutes (August 9, 2023): RTPO Staff provided time for review of minutes and there were no revisions requested, Robert Kuipers called for a motion. ACTION: Raymond Concho motioned; Linda Cooke seconded adoption of the minutes. All in favor – motion carried.

ACTION ITEMS: None

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

item #	Item	Presenter
IV.	Review & Discuss: RTIPR Project Prioritization	Robert Kuipers, NWRTPO
BACKGROUND		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why? For some sections of our RTIPR members prefer to prioritize projects for funding – this typically happens for Roadway, Safety, and Transportation Project Fund. For TPF projects, we typically simply cite each #1 project for each member govt.; for Roadway and Safety, we sometime prioritize from #1 on down. • Purpose. Help members decide and prepare for any sections of the RTIPR in which to prioritize. • Discussion/Finalization. Members to prioritize at October meeting. 		
CURRENT WORK		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members will discuss and decide on which RTIPR sections they wish to prioritize. 		
ANTICIPATED WORK		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prioritize RTIPR sections at our October 11 meeting. In our previous RTIPR we only prioritized Roadway projects. For Transportation Project Fund we cited each member government’s #1 priority project on top, and all other TPF projects were cited below without prioritization. 		
ATTACHMENTS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None 		
BUDGET IMPACT		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None 		
ACTION ITEM		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will take any action as appropriate today 		

Discussion:

- We are still waiting to hear from Cibola County, and City of Grants for their #1 Roadway and TPF projects.
- Navajo projects won’t cite #1 Roadway and TPF projects, because the projects belong to Chapter governments.

item #	Item	Presenter
V.	Present: 2023 RTPO Member Survey	Robert Kuipers, NWRTPO

BACKGROUND		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why? At the end of every RTPO Fiscal Year, the NWRTPO provides a survey to our members so they can provide feedback on: training, local leader orientations, rating RTPO services, past and future meeting presentations of interest, ideas to improve RTPO service, ideas to bring in resources, ideas and recommendations for our primary goals, and additional recommendations. • Purpose. To gather this information (above) from our members for the past year. • Discussion/Finalization. Survey distributed at this meeting for members to complete if possible by next meeting. 		

CURRENT WORK		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members are asked to complete this survey and submit to RTPO staff by / before next month’s meeting. Understanding that not all of our members are able to pull this off within a month, we will see who has already submitted, and give the rest of our members another month. 		

ANTICIPATED WORK		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Same as above. 		

ATTACHMENTS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FFY 2023 RTPO member survey 		

BUDGET IMPACT		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None 		

ACTION ITEM		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A 		

Discussion: Mr. Kuipers indicated that ideally we would like to receive member surveys by the end of this month / before next month’s meeting, but there is no exact deadline for submission.

Item #	Item	Presenter
VI.	Present: Progress with RTIPR	Robert Kuipers

BACKGROUND		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why? Staff will be developing the RTIPR based on PPF information for RTPO members to review, approve and authorize the RTIPR in November or December • Purpose. Advise RTPO members on RTIPR progress now that PPF's are in. • Discussion/Finalization. Staff will advise on progress at this meeting and work with RTPO members to finalize the RTIPR in November or December. 		

CURRENT WORK		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff are working to develop and finalize the RTIPR 		

ANTICIPATED WORK		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members will consider RTIPR areas for project prioritization, to discuss and finalize at this October 11 meeting. • Staff are recommending prioritizing #1 Roadway and Transportation Project Fund projects 		

ATTACHMENTS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None at this time. 		

BUDGET IMPACT		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None 		

ACTION ITEM		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A 		

Discussion:

- Robert Kuipers indicated that most of our members have submitted their PPFs, although we are still waiting on Project Prospectus Forms from Cibola County and City of Grants. Robert continues to work with Laguna as Leonard Ludi no longer represents the Pueblo to the RTPO; and is following up with Margie Begay for Navajo Chapter project PPF's. Representatives for the Pueblo of Laguna are now Anne Oandasan, and Star Cheremiah.
- Mr. Kuipers requests that RTPO members try to submit their #1 Roadway and TPF projects, most members have already submitted – just waiting on Cibola County and City of Grants.
- Pueblo of Laguna has just one priority for both Roadway and TPF – which is their I-40 / L-24 Bridge and Bike & Pedestrian Improvements.

Item #	Item	Presenter
VII.	Reports, Updates, Announcements	Robert Kuipers
BACKGROUND		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why? Update RTPO members on news, training, funding, and other items of special interest • Purpose. Keep RTPO members up to date on critical information from NWRTPO and NMDOT sources 		
Informational Items		
Regional News & Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RTPO Monthly Report, Staff hours report for September, 2023 • Follow up with members on T/LPA Training certification status. • Member Reports 		
Member Special Reports: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None this meeting 		
NMDOT Reports: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • G to G Liaison: Neala Krueger / Sullivan Moore • Tribal Liaison: Ron Shutiva • District 6: Michael Neely / Bill Santiago / Kyle Slim; District 5: James Mexia or Amanda Nino 		
News, Training & Funding Opportunities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>FHWA Planning, Environment & Realty Reports: 7/13/23, 7/18/23</u> • <u>NMDOT Govt. to Govt. Update: 7/11/23, 7/26/23</u> • <u>AASHTO Publications: none</u> • <u>NMDOT / UNM-LTAP:</u> Provides a very robust collection of training opportunities – staff forward news to members as it comes out from this source – reference at ltap.unm.edu – Online courses notice forwarded to members as LTAP emails come in. • <u>Title VI Training</u> is available to MPO’s and RTPO’s from Lisa Neie – Civil Rights Manager for FHWA New Mexico. These trainings can be customized to address member concerns and issues for their regions, if provided to her in advance. • <u>Email Change Notice from NMDOT:</u> All NMDOT staff emails have changed from @state.nm.us to @dot.nm.gov • <u>DOT Data and Mapping Tools for Grant Applications: 9/07/23</u> • <u>USDOT Funding and Training Opportunities: 9/08/23</u> • <u>Human Environment Digest: 9/14/23</u> • <u>NMDOT T/LPA Mandatory Training and Certification: Sent to members 9/19/23</u> Members who do not take this training will not qualify for federal funding!!! • <u>Reconnecting Communities & Neighborhoods funding program: Applications due Sept. 28 – sent to members 9/21/23</u> • <u>National Transportation in Indian Country Conference Sept. 24 – 28, Anchorage, Alaska:9/21/23</u> • <u>2024 Tribal Transportation Program Safety Fund: 9/21/23</u> • <u>Members asked to ID #1 Roadway and Transportation Project Fund projects by Oct. 11 meeting: 9/27/23</u> 		

Members please note: none of these documents will be included in the full meeting package due to the physical size and the electronic megabyte size going forward – all of the cited documents have already been emailed in advance of the RTPO monthly meeting to our NWRTPO members. Some of the citations are ongoing from month to month regarding ongoing training or funding opportunities.

Discussion:

- Mr. Kuipers quickly covered his monthly report for September and his staff hours summary for Quarter 4 – July thru September.
- Mr. Kuipers reminded RTPO members that the T/LPA Certification training is required for federal funding for transportation projects. Most of our members attended the July and August trainings in Farmington and Gallup. Mr. Kuipers encouraged those who have not yet

attended this training to attend those still forthcoming, which will include some additional trainings in Albuquerque.

Local Member Reports (<i>significant news only</i>)		By Entity
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New news in bold

Pueblo of Acoma

- **TLPA Training – Gallup August 16 – 17: Raymond Concho and Dennis Felipe attended this mandatory training in Gallup on behalf of the Pueblo of Acoma. Pueblo of Acoma is updating their ICIP at this time and their economic development plan is at 95% completion.**
- **MESA HILL BRIDGE PROJECT:** The project PS&E and EA are complete. The Pueblo is working towards finalizing the cultural clearances and right-of-way with the BIA. In addition, finalizing the land status with Tribal Leadership. Upon completion of pending items, the Pueblo will apply for Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Tribal Transportation Program (TTP) Bridge Program Funds. The Pueblo plans to utilize the On-Call Engineering Services to complete the planning and design phase to move forward with construction. **The Pueblo has completed Preliminary Engineering for this project and currently has a contractor working to get design up to date. The Pueblo is working on archaeological clearances and has been approved for full funding. Upon reception of funding the Pueblo will use an on-call contractor for construction.**
- **ON-CALL ENGINEERING SERVICES:** Contract approval in progress – will engage WH Pacific, Wilson & Co. and Sauder Miller engineering firms.
- **EXTEND TRANSIT SERVICES:** **The Pueblo is now approved to coordinate transit with Laguna.**
- **SP30 – PUEBLO ROAD MAINTENANCE:** LGRF Cooperative Agreement and Tribal Resolution have been signed by Pueblo leadership and sent to Bill Santiago at DOT District 6. **Acoma continues to move forward with the project which is currently in planning & design; the Pueblo has requested an extension for SP30 maintenance.**
- **SP38 HAAK’U ROAD PLANNING & DESIGN (PS&E):** Project consists of a 12.3-mile-long corridor to Acoma’s original Village at the mesa. Project funded for \$2,900,000 for planning and design improvements from the FY2023 NM Transportation Project Fund (TPF). The TPF Cooperative Agreement finalized. Finalizing contract to issue NTP for fund issuance from NMDOT. The Pueblo awarded WH Pacific Engineering for design of this corridor and this project is in progress.
- **M123 BRIDGE (SAN FIDEL CREEK BRIDGE ON SP34 FATIMA HILL ROAD) REPAIR/REPLACEMENT:** Project funded \$137,049 for design through FHWA Tribal Transportation Program Bridge Program Funding. To move forward using on-call services. **This project is currently in design.**
- **M124 BRIDGE (ACOMITA LAKE BRIDGE ON SP34 FATIMA HILL ROAD) REPAIR/REPLACEMENT:** Project funded \$380,000 for design through FHWA Tribal Transportation Program Bridge Program Funding. To move forward using on-call services.
- **SAFETY PROGRAM:** Awarded FHWA TTP Safety Program Funding of \$10,000 to update Transportation Safety Plan and \$475,000 for SP30 Pueblo Rd. East End (Between NM124 & I-40) Safety Re-Design.
- **SP30 PUEBLO RD. (ENTIRE ROUTE I-40 WEST):** Pueblo is seeking funding for design and reconstruction of SP30 – Pueblo Road (10.6 miles). Project is now in design with TTP funds. Looking for NM Transportation Project Funding for this road.
- **SKY CITY SCENIC BYWAY:** Pending Tribal Council resolution for Tribal byway designation.
- **FR4011P/SP35 SAN LORENZO ROAD:** Official notification to NMDOT Dist. 6 to discuss state-owned route drainage issues.
- **PROJECT BUNDLING:** Acoma would like to invite local, county and other tribal entities within the region to consider partnering for construction project funding, as bundling projects saves money, as Acoma has learned from the CMGC (Construction Management / General Contractor) funding.
- **ALTERNATIVE REPRESENTATIVES:** In process of selecting alternate representative.
- **LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN:** 2022 Update Issued and posted on Acoma’s Community Development Office website.
- **ACOMA BUSINESS PARK:** Design 100% Complete. Construction UNFUNDED at an estimated \$35 million.
- **NM124 EXTENSION TO NM117:** Project on hold. Design funded through the Transportation Project Fund.

Pueblo of Zuni

- **The Pueblo is working on drainage improvements along the NM53 corridor mp 15.5 to 19.5 – creating culverts and ponds.**
- **The Pueblo submitted an application to update their Transportation Safety Plan; and was awarded funding to update their Tribal Transportation Safety Plan in 2022; and conduct an RSA on NM53 from mp 13.5 to 18. Notice of award was received Feb. 7.**
- **NMDOT Contract #CN6101091 – Meridian Contracting working on drainage issues and retention ponds; this includes installing concrete box culverts. Asphalt paving will continue when weather permits.**
- **Have received FHWA Tribal Transportation Program funding for FFY22. – Prepping for construction in FY23.**
- **The Pueblo Transportation Dept. will be issuing two RFP's in the near future. One is to plan, design and construct a new transportation facility to include Ashiwi Transit; and the other is for planning, design and reconstruction of BIA Route 5 – Nutria Road.**
- **Like many other governments, the Pueblo is having trouble finding contractors.**
- **The Pueblo is looking for reconstruction for Sandy Springs Road.**
- Bid packages for Shiwi Ts'ana Elementary School access and Z301 / NM53 intersection improvements were opened July 12 – with one bid submitted. Notice of award offered to Albuquerque Sparling Construction company for both projects combined.
- Zuni purchased a dump truck with FHWA Coronavirus funds.
- The Pueblo is looking to purchase a backup generator for the Andrew Othole Memorial Airport.
- **Zuni Transportation Dept. submitted documents to the Governors Office to fund two historical and cultural sites of significance with related road improvement projects.**
- US Dept. of Treasury set aside \$20 billion for Native American Tribes under American Rescue Plan. Zuni received it's first distribution – Road Dept. will submit road improvement project that leads to significant historical site for tourism
- Road maintenance projects continue related to flooding around the Pueblo.
- Royce is now also the Airport Manager. Receipt of FAA grant agreement for developing an Airport Master Plan for the Andrew Othole Memorial (AOM) Airport. The master plan will be developed by the Pueblo's airport consultant – Armstrong Consultant's, Inc.
- Erin Kenley, TTP Director and Brian Allen, TTP Fields Operation Manager – both from the Office of Tribal Transportation visited Zuni on August 10 and met with the Governor and Tribal Council on a number of issues. Discussed the tribal self-governance program within the US DOT and FHWA.
- The Pueblo continues to update its long-range transportation plan. The plan is now in final draft form and being put out on the Pueblo website and Facebook for public comment. The draft plan is awaiting recommendations for next steps on how to present to the public.
- The pedestrian trail project plan is now 100% complete – will move forward for FHWA approval.
- On-call A/E consultants are working on designs for Ruins Road, North/South Sandy Springs Road, Harker Circle, the intersection of Ojo Caliente/Pia Mesa and pedestrian trails. Ruins Road is now at 95% completion.
- Ongoing road maintenance around the Pueblo. This includes crews addressing mowing, culvert repairs, blading gravel or dirt roads, asphalt pothole repairs and vegetation control.
- Virtual Presentation meeting with NMDOT and WHPacific on the NM53 Drainage project being designed by by WHPacific to make improvements from MP15.5 to 19, due to undersized culvert pipes and overtopping of flood waters on NM53 (also Zuni Mainstreet). First meeting was held on October 7.
- There are demolition projects in the Pueblo for the Lemon Tree/Zuni Laundromat building and the old Zuni Water Dept. building.
- The Pueblo is undertaking construction of an RV Park.
- The Pueblo has worked with Ashiwi Transit and Gallup Express to extend transit service to the Ramah Navajo area.
- The Pueblo has engaged contractual on call engineering services for future transportation development.
- The Ashiwi transit system received a national award at the 2019 National RTAP (*Rural Transportation Assistance Program*) conference. **Ashiwi Transit received another award plaque for their service during the COVID pandemic.**
- Ashiwi Transit will resume when all safety precautionary measures have been installed on the transit vehicles. Local and Gallup services will resume on a limited basis, but only on demand or appointments. Extension to Ramah / Pinehill is temporarily on hold until further notice around COVID-19 concerns. Ashiwi Transit is now back in service. **Hope to resume transit discussions with the Ramah / Pinehill area soon.**

McKinley County

- **CR-19 improvements.** CR19 – 18.6 miles of chip-sealing is now complete and striping is finished making this project almost complete; just 7 miles of fencing to go.
- **The County's Local Government Road Fund projects for FFY2021 are now complete; working on certifications for 2022 projects at this time.** LGRF Manuelito Canyon road alignment is now complete.
- **The County Road Dept. has issued Purchase orders for a bridge on CR15 and a bridge on CR43; these bridges are now at 60% to completion.**
- **CR27, CR61 and CR5 have completed chipseal.**
- **The County is working on design for 10 bridges.**
- The County had their ribbon cutting ceremony for Manuelito Canyon bridge replacement on September 10, 2021 – the event was well attended by State and regional legislative leaders along with President Jonathon Nez of the Navajo Nation.
- The County will benefit with \$23 million for improvements to the Carbon Coal Road intersection in Gamerco with US491, which leads to the developing Energy Logistics Park (and potential Inland Port). **This project is now complete!**
- The County has finished chip sealing Pine Haven road; will use remaining funds to finish improvements on Allison road.
- **Cousins Road and CR-1 will move into phase 2 repairs; Cousins road will get 4 miles of chip seal. CR-1 has completed 3 miles of chip-seal. Superman Canyon Road (CR43) and Old Church Rock Mine Bridge (CR15) are next projects on the list. The County Road Dept. has issued purchase orders for a bridge on CR15 and a bridge on CR43. Church Rock Mine Bridge is getting started at this time. The 2023 Transportation Project Fund has funded another Superman Canyon road – CR43 bridge at \$2,716,334.00.**
- **The County is realigning CR5 – Manuelito Canyon road – LGRF funds; has applied 4 miles of chip seal on CR-6. The alignment for this road is now complete.**
- Ongoing county-wide maintenance including blading, patching potholes, cleaning culverts, repairing bridges / guardrails, etc. The County has completed the ZMTP Milk Ranch Trail Head.

Gallup

- **Gallup Mainstreet Project – Coal Avenue Commons:** The City has been funded for phase 2 from the NM Transportation Project Fund – and has been awarded \$3,500,000 from this fund to complete this project. The city commenced construction on May 2, starting with alley improvements. Intersection of Coal Ave. and 2nd Street is now complete with additional drainage structure. Phase 2 construction is now complete and working on close out paperwork. First to Second street is now complete. Gallup will be awarded for best practice for the Coal Avenue project at the Infrastructure Conference in Las Cruces next week.
- **East Nizhoni and West Aztec improvements are currently in design phase – East Nizhoni received news from NMDOT Dist. 6 that the City was awarded MAP funding for East Nizhoni Ave - \$900,000. Phase 2 Nizhoni Blvd. and College Drive intersection construction began on 10/17/22 and is now complete and in close-out. East Nizhoni was also awarded \$350,000 from the NM FFY2023 Transportation Project Fund. East Nizhoni phase 3 construction is ongoing. A Transportation Project Fund from NMDOT application for phase 4 was submitted on May 31, 2023 and has been funded at \$2 million, and approved by the City Council. West Aztec – meeting with property owner has been executed and now moving forward to complete design which is ongoing.**
- **West Aztec drainage** legislative grant has been executed and engineering services have been awarded to begin design; notice of obligation has been submitted and approved by the state. **Property owner has submitted proposal to City for utility easement – now completed and moving to complete design. West Aztec Ave. is working on close out paperwork at this time.**
- **Local Govt. Road Fund funded projects have completed mill and overlay for planned roads; received word from NMDOT Dist. 6 that the City was awarded funds for our next project. Working on close out paperwork and completed Coop letter of intent for 2023. Public Works is now working on the Coop mill and overlay project and these projects were completed in July for Bradley, Silva, Maloney and Adams streets.**
- The City has submitted a Letter of Intent for Coop funding.
- **West Logan street repairs are being advertised**
- **2nd and 3rd Street pedestrian safety improvements RFP for design was awarded, along with 2nd and 3rd Street Quiet Zone awarded for design – this project is ongoing.**

- **CDBG RFP was awarded – working on paperwork for DFA approval. An Extension Request was sent to DFA; construction commenced on May 1, 2023 and is ongoing. Final walk-thru is scheduled for October 16.**
- **Federal Aviation Admin. application for \$5 million has been submitted for our airport taxi-way and connectors. The City has been awarded and construction began on April 11, 2022. Construction is now complete and project in close out.**
- **LGRF Mill & Overlay:**
 - **9/30/23 – Piano Street now paved**
 - **8/23/23 – McBride Circle was milled and to be paved 10/12/23**
 - **10/10/23 – Marcella Circle was milled and to be paved 10/13/23**
 - **10/11/23 – Rocky View Circle to be milled today and to be paved 10/14/23.**

Milan

- **The Village had a ribbon cutting ceremony for a new soccer complex and is improving a baseball field.**
- **Airport road is moving forward to phase 2 and 3 for bridge replacement and road repairs – funding sources include Water Trust Board, TPF and MAP. Airport Road phase 1 is complete and can be traveled on now.**
- **Mill Road is in review, and will submit signed documents to the EDA to finalize the grant.**
- **There has been some flooding but no major problems. Sewer system improvements are in design including a lift station via the Clean Water State Revolving Fund. Swimming pool and water system improvements are ongoing to include well houses improvements and upgrading storage tanks. Working on a new lift station on Stanley Drive**
- **Cottonwood road is at 60% design.**
- **The Village has secured funding for Stanley Road Bridge and roadway thru the Transportation Project Fund – ready to commence design.**
- **Working toward street improvements for Willow Drive, Elkins Road, Motel Drive and Tiejien Street**
- **Various ongoing lighting projects**
- **Need to address repair for NM605 bridge**
- **Need to address a Mill Road and Rail crossing**

Ramah

- **Hard to find contractors therefore most projects are on hold at this time – other than routine maintenance.**
- **Dorothy Claw attended the Tribal Summit on June 7 in Albuquerque.**
- **Ramah is looking to draft an agreement with Cibola County for road maintenance.**
- **Ramah has submitted applications to repair / replace two bridges.**
- **Ramah continues work on road maintenance, cattle guards, blading dirt roads, potholes, fencing and areas needing re-construction.**
- **Ramah Navajo received \$21,424,232 (!) to improve 6.5 miles of BIA Rt. 125, including bike and ped infrastructure!**
- **Condolences to the community for the loss of Shane Lewis, who accomplished significant transportation development on behalf of the Ramah Navajo community.**
- **Ramah Navajo has filled two positions after the departure of Shane Lewis with Dorothy Claw as primary transportation developer and Tom Martine as transportation assistant – these individuals are also the primary and alternative representatives to the NWRTPO.**
- **Ramah Navajo is updating their Long Range Transportation Plan at this time, and in the process of prioritizing projects. Public meeting took place January 3 . Ramah is also working on Administrative Policies and Procedures.**
- **BIA 175 is the next new project for Ramah Navajo – seeking funding at this time.**
- **Working on signage for BIA 125 and 122.**
- **Ramah has applied to the MEGA grant for improvements to BIA 125 mp. 18 – 26**
- **Ramah received a safety grant for \$300,000 which will help supply new guard rails.**
- **Looking to reconstruct BIA 145 and BIA 195**
- **Completed PFF's for NM53 & BIA 125 intersection and Pine Hill school pedestrian ADA improvements.**
- **Some weather related road maintenance and repair going on at this time.**
- **Ramah is developing RSA's for ten (10) intersections for NM53 and other tribal roads.**

- Dorothy and Tom are acclimating with ongoing Ramah transportation projects at this time and updating the Ramah Long Range Transportation Plan, completing an annual report, and looking for training opportunities.
- Acting executive director for Ramah Navajo Chapter's 638 Grants & Contract Programs issued a memorandum for employees to return back to work and follow CDC guidelines within each Chapter program RNDOT is back in operation and continues to maintain roadways.
- BIA Projects Update:
 - BIA 125 mp 18 – 24.6 – received approved design exception report for this project from FHWA and will move to finalize the project. BIA 125 MP 0 – 4.4 received approval from NNHPO on the updated Cultural Report document and Categorical Exclusion. Awaiting ROW documents for BIA 195 in Ramah Band Land to RN Realty Office. BIA 113 and 145 received final report and will review final documents with tribal officials
 - BIA 195: submitted ROW documents to RN Realty Office; **more focus on this road going forward.**
 - BIA 145 and BIA 113: Received draft report for BIA 145 and BIA 113. **More focus on BIA 145 going forward.**
- RNDOT Transportation Technician is vacant and will advertise for the position.
- Submitted grant applications for the NOFO on Tribal Transportation Program Safety Funds.
- BIA 125 striping project is complete; **BIA 125 mp 0-4 and mp12 – 24.6 are now construction ready.**
- NMDOT LGRF received all certifications and submitted a letter of disbursement. Awaiting on contractor to return signed Notice of Award for BIA 125 striping project.
- Cancelled Transportation Committee Meetings until COVID-19 Restrictions are lifted.
- Submitted road signs replacement maintenance project for 2021 LGRF cycle.
- NMDOT LGRF received some certifications and will coordinate with Utility providers. Received ROW certification and submitted letter requesting disbursement.
- Assisting with RN Community Development Department for the Navajo Nation Rural Addressing Project.
- Ongoing general maintenance for area roads, cattle guards and signage, blading and shaping, potholes and base course patching (incl. school bus routes). Cleaning and replacing roadway signs. Field fence repairs, post replacements and gate repairs.
- **Ramah Navajo has submitted a BUILD Grant application.**

Cibola County

- Cibola County has hired a new Road Superintendent by the name of Ed Salazar.
- The County is doing "blade and shape" maintenance on 84.7 miles of 14 County Roads; and a variety of other maintenance (cattle guards / culverts / sign repair / tree trimming & weed control / mowing / pot-hole patching / and minor road repairs) for 24 county roads.
- **The County has completed an emergency bypass at this time for the CR-5 Moquino bridge, and is awaiting TPF 2023 funding to repair the bridge in the future.**
- **The county continues undertaking flood damage repairs**
- **The county is working on chip sealing a variety of roads at this time.**
- **The County has commenced development of the Zuni Mountains Quartz Hill Trail.**
- ZMTP RTP trail project is funded for FFY2020 construction – working with McKinley County for trails development beginning with the Quartz Hill Trail Head. Construction will likely not proceed until FFY2021 Spring & Summer for the Cibola portion of the Zuni Mountain Recreational Trails. **Cibola County has now been cleared to be the fiscal agent for this project and will no longer need McKinley County's assistance; trail development and construction is commencing.** Cibola, COG and NMDOT staff had a virtual internal planning meeting on Jan. 19 at 9am with Arnold from the Forest Service to discuss updated scope of work for this project. **The County has commenced work on the Trail Head project and has submitted an extension request to JoAnn Garcia at NMDOT.**
- Cibola County has submitted an RFP due March 23 for a new public safety building, and will conduct a pre-proposal meeting; six (6) construction firms have responded thus far.
- CR-18B and CR1 road / bridge projects are current priorities. CR-18B awarded LGTPF funding – LGTPF contract is complete and submitted. CR18-B – RFP closed Friday – 12/4 and are currently reviewing applications – much appreciation to JoAnn Garcia from NMDOT District 6. Two firms responded to the RFP and the Cibola Commission determined the award at their January 14 meeting. **CR18-B has commenced ROW work; drainage work is ongoing and construction for CR18-B bridge to commence in August or Sept. ; CR-1 has issued an RFP to Engineering Firms.**
- **CR-57 A is having a culvert replaced, and the County is starting on cattle guard replacements, as well as removing sand on various roads related to wind conditions.**
- Ongoing County wide maintenance for County and Forest Roads.

Grants

- The City recently had a ribbon cutting ceremony for the pedestrian bridge on 2nd Street. **The bridge and channel are almost completed. 2nd Street Shared Path Loop has been awarded \$1.1 million in TAP funding.**
- Riverwalk trail: Design at 100% from WHPacific, Project is on hold for the time being.
- First Street phase 2 – Adams to Roosevelt: design at 100%; added a pond and lift station on Geis Street for drainage; allotted \$1.8 million from 2019 state legislature for **final phase 3 from Washington to Roosevelt which was recently awarded is now complete.** Final PS&E was scheduled for this August and project letting is scheduled for September. Total project stands at \$6.2 million. **Striping is now complete; anticipated completion coming soon. Roosevelt Bridge is now in construction.**
- 2nd street bridge out to bid for construction to commence in July – **2nd Street Channel project is now complete for Jefferson Ave. to the Rio San Jose.**
- Washington bridge replacement over 2nd Street through LGTPF funding will include a walking opportunity for High School students; project construction is underway – commenced in June. **Funding was awarded at \$750,000 for the Anderman to Sage St. portion from NM CDBG funds.**
- Lobo Canyon and Roosevelt intersection improvements are underway and ongoing. **Roosevelt Bridge is at 100% design and going out to bid soon.**

Pueblo of Laguna

- **Leonard Ludi is now the primary representative for Laguna; as Elroy Keetso has taken a job at NM Indian Affairs.**
- **The Pueblo remains under COVID restrictions, and is looking for a transportation specialist – no other major news now.**
- **The Pueblo remains closed to the public, and administration is closed until the COVID-19 Pandemic resides. For I-40 MP 111 – 117 exists are closed to the Pueblo. Access NM124 via I-40 MP108 and 117 exits.**
- Gaylord informed COG RTPO staff that the Pueblo has six official villages – not seven – staff will execute this correction going forward.
- **The Pueblo is consulting with the MRRTPO for Laguna Pueblo lands within their jurisdiction.**
- **The Pueblo is constructing a new fire station for Paraje Village – including L22 Casa Blanca Road & I-40 connections. The Pueblo is also addressing pot-holes and road improvements for L22 Casa Blanca Road with design services from Wilson & Co.**
- The Pueblo is pursuing an FHWA grant to develop a Pueblo-wide (all Villages / roads) Safety Plan and will be seeking data sources identifying various crash incidents, and high crash incident locations; may need assistance from the RTPO or DOT with analyzing crash data. The Pueblo has a number of State Routes, where high speeds impact upon more fatal crashes.
- NM124 Bike and Pedestrian Trail – Paraje to the Kawaika Center project is complete – working with NMDOT for close out.
- NM124 Bike and Pedestrian Trail Encinal Road to State Road 279 is complete and in close out.
- NM124 Rio San Jose to Roundabout bike & ped path: Design is complete. PS&E checklist is complete – project planned to be let February – March, 2021. **NM 124 design is complete, anticipating construction in Spring of 2022.**
- L26 Rainfall Road from Cubero Wash to Seama bridge M108: **Construction has been completed**, including a bike & ped. trail. Final audits in progress **and project is in close-out.**
- M137 bridge at Laguna Subdivision: **Construction complete and project in close out with BIA.**
- Mill, Overlay, Striping & Enhancement Projects: Construction is complete for L503 – Veterans Memorial Road, L200 Postal Postal Road and L245 Raindrop Road. **The Pueblo is developing the next phase on four BIA routes: LGRF/BIA Road Maintenance Striping Projects – phase 2 & 3: Phase 2 – L500 Mountain Ash Loop and L500 Central Park Road; Phase 3 – L540 Veterans Memorial Road and L200 Elizabeth Bender Road. No bids were received so the Pueblo is working with NMDOT to sole-source these projects or they will lose funding by the end of 2023.**
- **Local Govt. Road Fund: projects will go out for construction bids soon.**
- LGRF / BIA Road Maintenance Mill, Overlay & Striping Projects: Phase 2 & 3: Phase 2 – the Pueblo is working on the next phase for four BIA routes: phase 2 for L500 Mountain Ash Loop and Central Park roads. Phase 3 for L540 – Veterans Memorial Road and L200 Elizabeth Bender Road. **Contract amendments submitted and received. Local Govt. Road Fund and trail projects to commence soon.**

- **NM 124 Roundabout:** The repairs to the roundabout are being coordinated by NMDOT, no start date has been determined. **NM124 Road Diet has received an extension and is in final design for Rio San Jose to the Roundabout (6100764 project control no.) – this includes a bike and pedestrian addition.**
- **NM124 to L22 Bike & Pedestrian Trail:** Pueblo is under contract with Universal Constructors for completion of this project – bids are due September, 2023.
- **L24 Rainfall Road:** design changed to two phases, **Ph-1 Road & Trail at final 100% design, and in ROW review. The Concrete Box Underpass is now eliminated, and DOT Dist. 6 proposes to build an I-40 bridge over L24 road.** Construction funded for \$1.9 million from the LGTPF fund! **Contract is extended to December 31, 2023. Pueblo will develop a first draft MOU for review and approval by NMDOT and BIA.**
- **L26 Deer Dancer Road:** at 100% design, working on ROW amendments and E.A.
- **L243 Acorn Road design:** completed 100% design and PS&E review from the BIA. **Construction to begin by the end of 2023.**
- **M154 Paguete Wash Bridge:** PER is complete – design phase has commenced with Horrocks Engineering and is currently at 60%.
- **M108 San Jose River Bridge-Seama:** PS&E, and ROW complete; EA, FONSI and NOI are in progress. Bridge is now at 100% design.
- **L248 Bluejay Road and L248 Blue Star Loop:** Design is in progress now and almost at 100%. PER report is now in progress to include ROW review. Additional work to address drainage and ROW for Blue Star Loop. Bluejay Road is ready for construction bid process.
- **Pueblo's Safety Plan:** Plan is now complete – close out letter sent to BIA.
- **NMDOT I-40 Safety Project:** The Pueblo met with NMDOT on March 3. Design is at 100%; Construction by MSCI is ongoing on the east bound lanes from MM112 – 116..
- The Pueblo has completed L26 Rainfall Road along with two trail projects.

Navajo Nation – Northern Agency

- **New Navajo Nation Leadership in Administrative and Legislative branches. Garrett Silversmith will remain in charge of NDOT.**
- **NDOT has completed \$170 million in projects in the past seven (7) years.**
- **NDOT will be meeting with the Hopi leaders on mutual road projects sometime soon.**
- **Navajo DOT is updating their Long Range Transportation Plan at this time.**
- **Local Govt. Road Fund projects will commence implementation soon for both Eastern and Northern Navajo.** Priscilla Lee – NDOT is working on extensions for FFY2019 projects. 2018 projects are complete at this time.
- **Northern and Eastern – currently updating regional road routes to present on Feb. 22 to the Navajo Council. Also updating Chapters on BIA Road Inventory to help fund 15 mile regional routes maintenance.**

Navajo Nation – Eastern Navajo

- **Edwin Begay is the Senior Planner for Eastern Navajo indicated that NDOT is now updating Chapter routes and will follow up with Chapters for resolutions and inventory training.**
- Emergency repair work is ongoing for road repairs related to heavy Monsoon rainfall. Busy fixing Chapter access roads – primarily in Arizona and now in New Mexico.
- **Recently Arlando Teller – USDOT met with Anthony Dimas and Billy Moore to discuss Navajo roads.**
- Working on TTIP projects across the Navajo Nation.
- Providing Chapters technical assistance for ingress and egress – including the BIA and NM / AZ DOT. The BIA will provide road inventory training to NDOT.
- **Navajo Transit is now under Navajo DOT.**
- NDOT is also gearing up for school bus route improvements and asking route maps from the various Navajo Nation schools. **NDOT is completing School Bus Route mapping at this time. There is currently much concern around school bus routes and bridges which buses cannot cross.**
- **Transportation Project Fund project application was approved by DOT for the west Tsayatoh Road in Eastern Navajo at \$2,450,000.**
- NDOT is meeting with Chapters around regional priorities and funding; **Iyanbito bridge request remains a priority around significant rail crossing delays (especially around emergency response concerns).**

- There are concerns with overgrazing, along with dust storms and sand on roadways – NDOT will present to NM Indian Affairs on these concerns.
- For both Northern and Eastern Navajo there have been major road washouts due to flooding, which NDOT is addressing as best they can. NDOT staff will also be undertaking BIA Road Inventory training.
- **NDOT is asking Chapters for new projects, and follow up with Chapters on Capital Outlay.**
- **At this time, the Navajo DOT has no representatives to the NWRTPO other than Margie Begay – they are working to identify new representatives for Northern, Eastern and Ft. Defiance Agencies.**

Proposed New Roadway Lighting Projects have no Planning, Designing or Construction funding, but the respective Chapters will be seeking funds to begin Road Safety Assessments, Design, and Construction: All these projects will be added to RTIPR for future funding of the projects.

- Smith Lake Chapter- Seeking RSA studies and street lighting at Hwy 371 & N49
- Crownpoint Chapter- Seeking RSA studies and street lighting at N9 & Hwy 371 intersection
- Becenti Chapter- Seeking RSA studies & Street lighting at Highway 371 & N9
- Coyote Canyon Chapter- Street lighting at Intersections of Highway 491 and N9, Milepost 15-15.5
- Whiterock Chapter- Seeking RSA & Street lighting at Highway 371 & store junction, chapter access roads
- Standing Rock Chapter- Seeking RSA & Street lighting at N9 & Chapter access road intersection.
- Little Water Chapter (Eastern)- Seeking RSA & Street lighting at Highway 371 and N7119
- Mexican Springs Chapter- Completing RSA, and seeking street lighting at Highway 491 & N30
- Naschitti Chapter- Completing RSA, and seeking street lighting at Highway 491 & Bus turnaround MP 32
- Tohatchi Chapter- Completing RSA and seeking street lighting at Highway 491 Milepost 22-24
- Twin Lakes Chapter- Completing RSA, and seeking street lighting at Highway 491 & Chapter access road/school access road, Milepost 13 – 13.5 and other lighting at Highway 491 & Giant store/Johnson road, Milepost 9.8 – 10.3

<p>New Mexico Department of Transportation Reports <i>(significant news only)</i></p>	<p>RTPO Liaison (Neala Krueger) Tribal Liaison (Ron Shutiva) District 5 (James Mexia, Amanda Nino) District 6 (Michael Neely, Bill Santiago, Kyle Slim)</p>
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Multimodal Planning & Programs Bureau – Neala Krueger / Sullivan Moore

- Sullivan Moore joined NMDOT’s Multimodal Planning and Programs Bureau as a Govt to Govt Planning Liaison on August 21. He will be the primary liaison assigned to NWRTPO with Neala Krueger as support. Sullivan can be reached at Sullivan.Moore@dot.nm.gov or 505-467-9392.
- Sullivan Moore is the Govt to Govt Planning Liaison assigned to NWRTPO. Sullivan can be reached at Sullivan.Moore@dot.nm.gov or 505-467-9392.
- The Grant Agreement for the *NWRTPO’s Trail of the Ancients Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plan* was approved by NMDOT Legal and executed by all parties in DocuSign. Now, we are generating a contract number and obligating the funds. A Notice to Proceed is coming soon.
- On Friday 9/29, Sullivan Moore sent NWRTPO a Notice to Proceed (NTP) for FFY24 funding for their Regional Work Program.
- NWRTPO reimbursement packets are due to Sullivan Moore by 10/25
- RWP First Quarter Formal Amendment drafts are due to Sullivan Moore by 11/1
 - This should include any Year 1 Carry Forward funds.
- The draft Annual Performance and Expenditure Reports (APER) is due to Sullivan Moore at Sullivan.Moore@dot.nm.gov by 11/15

- NMDOT is still accepting comments for the Vulnerable Road User (VRU) Safety Assessment at <https://newmexicodotshsp.com/>
 - New comments will no longer be included in the VRU results, but they still show up on the interactive map.
- U.S. Census Bureau released 2020 Census Detailed Demographic and Housing Characteristics File A (Detailed DHC-A) on 9/21
 - This provides population counts and sex-by-age statistics for approximately 1,500 detailed race and ethnic groups and detailed American Indian and Alaskan Native (AIAN) tribes and villages. For more information on other 2020 Census data products, please visit the “About 2020 Census Data Products” webpage.
- Local Public Agency ADA and Title VI plans were due to NMDOT on 9/18 – contact Jason R. Lujan, NMDOT ADA/Title VI Program Support, for any lingering questions/concerns at (505) 670-0116.

NMDOT Tribal Liaison – Ron Shutiva

- **Ron is trying to meet with new tribal legislators and engage with DOT District staff.**
- **Ron encourages RTPO members to apply for NMDOT Transportation Project Funding.**
- **Ron reminds members to follow up on Transportation Project Fund and Capital Outlay.**
- **Ron reminds members to remember that prices have escalated, when they complete their PPF’s.**
- **Ron appreciates DOT Dist. 6 work on the I-40 corridor study.**
- **Reference Neala’s announcement around T/LPA Handbook training (above).**
- **There is concern around litter and trash along I-40 intersection within the Pueblo of Laguna area.**
- **A corridor study is under consideration for I-40 from Arizona to Albuquerque – this will include consideration toward developing three lanes for this highway in each direction, given the truck freight traffic. Virtual Public meeting took place April 25 at 6:00 pm. Ron will be following up with Tribal entities for recommendations.**
- **Ron continues to work on engaging tribes around state corridors and is seeking help from regional media.**
- **Justin Reese is the new Cabinet Secretary for NMDOT.**
- **There will be a session on I-40 improvements with NDOT.**
- **Ron recommends phasing projects due to increasing costs**
- **House Memorial 13 is executed for a study on the Ramah area Wolf Sanctuary Road for improvements.**
- **NM 118 drainage study request from Mark Freeland – Navajo Tribal Council.**
- **Iyanbito Chapter is requesting a bridge over the BNSF Rail Line. (Another consideration would be extending a paved road west to the Church Rock bridge – might cost less).**
- **Ron is considering setting up quarterly tribal meetings with the DOT Districts, with consideration toward priority tribal projects.**
- **Ron reminds members to submit monthly reports for their Capital Outlay and Tribal Infrastructure projects.**
- **There are drainage concerns for Rt. 66 – adjacent to I-40 at the Ft. Wingate bridge.**
- **Ron reminded members to pay attention to the “Buy America” guidelines. Our region did well for this round of TPF funds.**
- **Ron reminded members to stay on top of funding opportunities – with \$ billions forthcoming – remember to prepare for environmental requirements (which are time consuming) for this funding.**
- **Shiprock Bridge replacement is being sought by Rep. Charles-Newton and under consideration with the Feds and Daryl Bradley from NDOT. Shiprock Chapter supports this project (but not critical at this time).**
- **Ron is now on the LTAP Board.**
- **Hoping to push for NM64 projects and NM491 north of Shiprock projects; along with the Hogback rockslide mitigation on US491.**
- **An NM264 Corridor session is forthcoming for Yatahey to Window Rock.**
- **A statewide Tribal Summit will take place at Mescalero Apache July 5-6.**
- **Concern that the NDOT is not involved with the NM I-40 studies.**
- **There’s a new Indian Highway Safety Grant out from the BIA.**
- **Reminding members to keep on top of deadlines for ICIP, TIF, and LGRF.**
- **Transportation Project Fund: better to phase then have a shortfall on funding for proposed projects.**

- A national broadband project is establishing a broadband corridor along I-40, and will involve tribal discussion with Pueblos of Laguna and Acoma and Navajo Nation.
- **Ron is encouraging tribal members to pursue bridge funding.**
- **Ron reminds tribal members to pursue support and related letters of support from state and national legislators.**
- NM118 drainage analysis project is finally in progress as the Navajo Council is working on agreements with the local governments in the region of the study between Churchrock and Iyanbito; **need coordination with NDOT.**
- Ron reported on the NM118 drainage analysis that took place between the Iyanbito and Ft. Wingate I-40 intersections at previous meetings. Ron indicated he feels that NM118 drainage issues remain unresolved to this day (in spite of two studies!) and the Navajo Nation DOT remains non-responsive!

NMDOT District 5 – James Mexia, **Amanda Nino**

- WHPacific is being contracted for a study on needed road and intersection improvements on US 64 – MP 0 – 20 (which includes the Shiprock School Zone). This project will be divided into two phases funded separately and referencing the District 5 HSIP plan for 2021 including a) primary / major Chapter or community intersections from Shiprock to the Arizona border and b) the Shiprock School Zone.
- The NM371 and N36 intersection near Northern Edge Casino is at 60% design; need ROW clearance / easement from NDOT.
- D-5 staff are managing project proposals for the 2021 Local Government Road Fund, and have received awards from the DOT General Office in Santa Fe for the next fiscal year.
- **Work is pending for NDOT Capital Outlay and N.O.O. – Please contact DOT District 5 SOON!!! Remember that Capital Outlay requires monthly report updates. Amanda encouraged RTPO members to provide Capital Outlay (CPMS) updates or the funding can be reverted; and pay attention to Capital Outlay reauthorizations.**
- **D-5 is awaiting LGRF and MAP agreements. Time extensions for LGRF are due October 31 !!!**
- **Watch out for funding deadlines!**

NMDOT District 6 – **Bill Santiago, Kyle Slim**

- **NWRTPO members can use a resolution offered from DOT District 6 for Transportation Project Fund projects.**
- **With a lot of local govt. turnover including RTPO members, staff training may be needed to bring new staff with transportation focus up to speed.**
- **Michael Neely indicated that Clayton Garner's departure is now replaced with Mr. Kyle Slim.**
- **Bill reminded RTPO members that all NMDOT staff have new emails as: dot.nm.gov**
- **Bill reminded that MAP and LGRF agreements are due by October 31 (!!) – amendments are due 60 days in advance! LGRF new agreements were sent out; match waiver requests are due by July 31 – packets must include supporting resolution.**
- **Interviews are underway to replace Clayton Garner who has left DOT Dist. 6.**
- **Local Govt. Road Fund** – as Stephanie from District 5 mentioned, the 5 certifications are also required before LGRF projects are considered construction ready. Keep District 6 informed on progress – the time is now critical to request an extension amendment as previously funded LGRF cycle is in close out! Extension requests are due by October 31 (including a resolution)! **The new LGRF call for projects has a March 15 deadline.**
- **Bill Santiago encourages RTPO members to pay attention to application deadlines around forthcoming funding. Also, be aware of staff changes at NDOT, NMDOT, and local governments.**
- **The FY2023 Transportation Project Fund applications must include a supporting resolution.** DOT District 6 has provided a template. Request a match waiver ASAP – due end of September.
- **Get signed agreements to DOT Dist. 6 soon, including supporting resolutions.**
- **Keep DOT District 6 staff informed on progress for the Transportation Project Fund. 5 certifications takes time – try to get these executed during this Winter season so you are construction ready in the Spring!!**
- **Bill reminded RTPO members that the MAP funding proposals will be due soon.**
- Mike Neely is on board with NMDOT District 6 to assist the RTPO's participating in the District 6 region – include Mr. Neely on all communication.
- Mr. Clayton Garner will fill JoAnn Garcia's former position at the District. Reminding members to remind others that traffic safety is important in construction areas.
- Lisa Vega is now the Director for DOT District 6, as Larry Maynard has retired.

- For Local Government Road Fund projects – the District needs certifications for all projects – many RTPO members are not following LGRF guidance for project development and are trying to close out projects without having reported progress to the DOT or following what the program requires – this could jeopardize funding.

Reminder: NMDOT will have a new email: staff_member@dot.nm.gov.

NEW BUSINESS/OPEN FLOOR: MEMBERS & GUESTS (5-minute limit) - None

ANNOUNCEMENTS & NEXT MEETING: No announcements – **next meeting November 11, 2023 – virtual meeting via Microsoft Teams**

ADJOURNMENT (Robert Kuipers called for adjournment at 11:00 am – **Raymond Concho** motioned; and **Rodney Skersick - McKinley** seconded for adjournment - motion carried by acclamation.

MEETING ACTIONS:

Staff:

- **Transportation Project Fund:** A new TPF Call for Projects has been issued for FFY2023. RTPO members have completed 2023 TPF application packages, staff have submitted to NMDOT and seven (7) projects were approved to move forward for the NWRTPPO (*Grants, Acoma, McKinley, Gallup, Cibola, Milan, Eastern Navajo*).

MEMBERS:

- **Members are encouraged to review your respective sections in these minutes and report to RTPO staff on which portions / bullet sentences can be eliminated as no longer pertinent or completed, as these sections make the minutes incredibly lengthy!!**
- **NMDOT:** Remind Staff and RTPO Members of impending deadlines for various projects and deliverables.



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**Northwest Regional Transportation Planning Organization
(NWRTPO)**

Agenda Item #IV: Annual Member Survey – FFY 2023

Subject: Annual member survey for FFY2023 – Oct. 2022 thru Sept. 2023

Prepared for: Staff and members to cover progress at this meeting

Date: 11/01/23

BACKGROUND

- **Why?** At the end of every RTPO Fiscal Year, the NWRTPO provides a survey to our members so they can provide feedback on: training, local leader orientations, rating RTPO services, past and future meeting presentations of interest, ideas to improve RTPO service, ideas to bring in resources, ideas and recommendations for our primary goals, and additional recommendations.
- **Purpose.** To gather this information (above) from our members for the past year.
- **Discussion/Finalization.** Survey distributed at October meeting for members to complete if possible by this meeting.

CURRENT WORK

- Members have been asked to complete this survey and submit to RTPO staff by / before this month's meeting. Understanding that not all of our members are able to pull this off within a month, staff will report who has already submitted, and give the rest of our members just one more month.

ANTICIPATED WORK

- Same as above.

ATTACHMENTS

- FFY 2023 RTPO member survey

BUDGET IMPACT

- None

ACTION ITEM

- N/A

Annual NWRTPO Member Survey
FFY – 2023: October, 2022 – September, 2023

1) Please enter the number of training events you attended during FFY 2023:

List (name) the trainings in the appropriate boxes so we can identify the types of trainings you've attended during this time period.

UNM-LTAP / TTAP: (Local Tech. Asst. Prgm. / Tribal Tech. Asst. Prgm.)	•
NHI National Hwy. Institute:	•
FHWA Fed. Hwy. Admin.:	•
Other:	•

2) RTPO members will complete the NWRTPO orientation virtual presentation for your policy officials due in FFY2024 – last orientations completed in 2021.

Local Government:	Orientation Completed:	Local Government:	Orientation Completed:
San Juan County		Northern Navajo	Aug. – Sept. 2021
McKinley County	8/17/21	Eastern Navajo	Aug – Sept., 2021
Cibola County	9/23/21	Pueblo of Acoma	9/16/21
Gallup	9/28/21	Pueblo of Laguna	8/27/21
Grants	9/7/21	Pueblo of Zuni	9/7/21
Milan	8/19/21	Ramah Navajo	9/2/21

Response: (Orientations can be provided at any time a local govt. feels they need another one based on elections and leadership turnover.)

3) How would you rate the RTPO services over the FFY2023 term (Oct. 2022 – Sept. 2023):

Rating	Comments:
✓ Excellent	
✓ Good	
✓ Fair	
✓ Needs Improvement	

4) Please provide information on any presentations you are interested in having at an RTPO meeting:

- A)
- B)
- C)
- D)

5) Please provide any feedback on issues or ideas that would be helpful to improve the RTPO service to our local governments:

- A)
- B)
- C)
- D)

6) The RTPO seeks opportunities to strengthen rural positioning for transportation resources, using data and performance measures. Do you have any new ideas or creative suggestions?

- A)
- B)
- C)
- D)

7) The Goals in our Regional Transportation Plan include:

- 1) Operational Capacity (*Operate with Transparency and Accountability*)
- 2) Safety (*Improve Safety and Health for all System Users*)
- 3) Asset Management (*Maintain Transportation Assets for the Long Term*)
- 4) Mobility and Accessibility (*Provide Multimodal Connectivity and Access*)
- 5) Program Delivery (*Respect NM Cultures, Environment, History, Health and Quality of Life*)

Are there specific actions or strategies within these goals that you would like more focus toward on the part of NWRTPPO staff and members in the year ahead?

8) Should the NWRTPPO discontinue monthly meetings (12 per year) and initiate bi-monthly meetings (6 per year)?

9) Any additional recommendations from your jurisdiction for the NWRTPPO?



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**Northwest Regional Transportation Planning Organization
(NWRTPO)**

Agenda Item #V: Progress with RTIPR now that PPF's are in

Subject: Staff will advise on RTIPR development progress

Prepared for: November 8, 2023 meeting

Date: 11/01/23

BACKGROUND

- **Why?** Staff will be developing the RTIPR based on PPF information for RTPO members to review, approve and authorize the RTIPR in November or December
- **Purpose.** Advise RTPO members on RTIPR progress now the PPF's are in.
- **Discussion/Finalization.** Staff will advise on progress at this meeting and work with RTPO members to finalize the RTIPR in December.

CURRENT WORK

- Staff are working to develop and finalize the RTIPR

ANTICIPATED WORK

- Members have considered RTIPR areas for project prioritization, and discussed and finalized at our October 11 meeting.
- RTPO staff are now working to complete the RTIPR for review and initial authorization at our December meeting.

ATTACHMENTS

- None at this time.

BUDGET IMPACT

- None

ACTION ITEM

- N/A



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**Northwest Regional Transportation Planning Organization
(NWRTPO)**

Agenda Item #VI: NMDOT Carbon Reduction Strategy

Subject: Presentation on strategies to reduce carbon and greenhouse gas emissions which are harmful to our air and environment.

Prepared for: November 8, 2023 RTPO meeting

Date: 11/1/23

BACKGROUND

- **Why?** Carbon reduction is a growing emphasis to protect our environment and air quality.
- **Purpose.** NMDOT is undertaking a proactive approach to contribute toward carbon emission reduction.
- **Discussion/Finalization.** This presentation from Sullivan Moore of NMDOT will help our RTPO members better understand and contribute toward carbon emissions reduction within our state of New Mexico.

CURRENT WORK

- Receive and participate in this presentation.

ANTICIPATED WORK

- Support NMDOT and contribute within our region and communities toward carbon reduction.

ATTACHMENTS

- Mr. Moore's presentation.

BUDGET IMPACT

- None

ACTION ITEM

- N/A

NMDOT CARBON REDUCTION STRATEGY

Shannon Glendenning via Sullivan Moore

Shannon.Glendenning@dot.nm.gov

Sullivan.Moore@dot.nm.gov

What is the Carbon Reduction Strategy?

- New requirement under IIJA
- Strategy to FHWA by November 15, 2023
- Strategy must be updated every four years
- Must be developed in consultation with any MPO designated in the state
- Strategy shall:
 - support efforts to reduce transportation emissions,
 - identify projects and strategies to reduce transportation emissions,
 - support the reduction of transportation emissions of the State,
 - At the discretion of the state, quantify the total carbon emissions from the production, transport, and use of materials used in the construction of transportation facilities within the state
 - and be appropriate to the population density and context of the state.

Transportation Emissions definition: “carbon dioxide emissions from on-road highway sources of those emissions within a state”

NMDOT's approach to reducing transportation CO₂ emissions



Reduce VMT

Facilitating the use of alternatives to single occupant vehicle trips, including public transportation facilities and services, pedestrian facilities, bicycle facilities, and shared or pooled vehicle trips



Reduce transportation emission of vehicles

Facilitate the use of vehicles or modes of travel that result in lower transportation emissions compared to existing vehicles and modes including electric vehicles



Reduce emissions of NMDOT operations including materials

Facilitate approaches to the operations and construction of transportation assets that result in lower transportation emissions as compared to existing approaches



Carbon Sequestration

Facilitate the development and implementation of projects that capture carbon dioxide through revegetation, mitigation, and restoration of natural and working lands

Strategy Outline

1. Introduction
2. New Mexico's Context for Carbon Reduction Strategies
3. Sources of On-Road CO₂ Emissions in New Mexico and Measures
4. On-Road CO₂ Reduction Activities
5. Current Initiatives and Opportunities to Reduce Emissions
6. CRS Activities to Reduce Transportation CO₂ Emissions
7. Strategy Development Process and MPO and RTPO Coordination





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Northwest Regional Transportation Planning Organization (NWRTPO)

Agenda Item #VII: Reports, Updates & Announcements

Subject: Discussion / Presentation Items

Prepared by: Robert Kuipers, NWRTPO

Date: 11/01/23

BACKGROUND

- **Why?** Update RTPO members on news, training, funding, and other items of special interest
- **Purpose.** Keep RTPO members up to date on critical information from NWRTPO and NMDOT sources

Informational Items

Regional News & Updates

- RTPO Monthly Report, Staff hours report for October, 2023
- Follow up with RTPO members on T/LPA Training certification status
- Member Reports

Member Special Reports:

- None this meeting

NMDOT Reports:

- G to G Liaison: Neala Krueger
- Tribal Liaison: Ron Shutiva
- District 6: Bill Santiago & staff; District 5: James Mexia or Amanda Nino

News, Training & Funding Opportunities:

- FHWA Planning, Environment & Realty Reports: 10/12/23
- NMDOT Govt. to Govt. Update: 10/25/23
- AASHTO Publications: none
- NMDOT / UNM-LTAP: Provides a very robust collection of training opportunities – staff forward news to members as it comes out from this source – reference at ltap.unm.edu – **Online courses notice** forwarded to members as LTAP emails come in.
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Members please note: none of these documents will be included in the full meeting package due to the physical size and the electronic megabyte size going forward – all of the cited documents have already been emailed in advance of the RTPO monthly meeting to our NWRTPO members. Some of the citations are ongoing from month to month regarding ongoing training or funding opportunities.

**RTPO APER Budgeted Staff Hours Summary
FFY2023**

October-2023 / Q-1 Monthly Report											
Function	Budgeted Hours	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total Actual hours	Balance	Percentage budgeted differs from actuals*
1	300	4.50			4.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.50	295.50	-98.50%
2	150	2.00			2.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.00	73.50	-100.00%
3	600	12.50			12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	12.50	587.50	-97.92%
4	300	13.00			13.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	13.00	282.00	-95.67%
5	400	17.00			17.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	17.00	383.00	-95.75%
6	350	71.00			71.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	71.00	279.00	-79.71%
TOTAL	2100	120.00			120.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	120.00	1980.00	-94.29%
<p>*if budgeted hours differ from actual hours by more than 20% in any function, provide a narrative explanation below:</p>											



A PROGRAM OF Northwest New Mexico Council of Governments

NWRTPO | Northwest Regional Transportation Planning Organization

Monthly Report – October, 2023

- A. 2023-2024 NWRTPO RTIPR Update:** The 2022 RTIPR has a total of \$175,686,550.00 for Roadway, Bridge, Planning, TAP, RTP, FLAP, HSIP, TPF and Transit projects. The 2023 NWRTPO RTIPR Call for Projects Update commenced in February, 2023 to give our members a head-start; we are encouraging our members to consider and commence developing their priorities for the 2024 round of Transportation Project Fund (TPF) opportunity – full applications due May 31; the 2023-2024 Call for Projects will be completed in March of 2024, with the DOT Dist. 5 & 6 RTIP's. Project Feasibility Forms were reviewed by DOT District 5 and 6 on May 2 at the DOT District 6 Office in Milan. Members have completed PPF's (Project Prospectus Forms) due August 31 for all submitted projects, regardless of DOT District 6 delays around PPF's – (also a responsibility of our affected members). **RTPO staff are now working to draft our FFY2024 RTIPR – hoping to have it ready by the end of December.**
- B. NMDOT Transportation Project Fund:** A new 2024 TPF call for projects was issued with a deadline of May 31, 2023 for project submissions; staff reminded RTPO members to submit their full applications via the FTP website by/before this deadline. This year six of our RTPO member govt.'s were awarded and one from Farmington MPO including Bloomfield, San Juan County, Burnham Chapter, Cibola County, City of Gallup, Village of Milan, and Ramah Navajo for a total of \$10,286,414.
- C. MAP funding:** City of Grants is executing their turn to pursue 2024 Municipal Arterial Funding, and submitted their application by the March 15, 2023 deadline.
- D. GIS Data Gathering, Trails Development, Mapping and Compiling Work:** COG staff Carrie House continues to provide technical assistance and GIS mapping for development of 200 new miles of recreational trails in the Zuni Mountains in McKinley and Cibola Counties during FFY18 – FFY22; and continues contributing GIS mapping for regional transportation infrastructure. The NWCOG was the only New Mexico recipient of a NADO Impact Award for the ongoing development of 200 miles of recreational trails in the Zuni Mountains of McKinley and Cibola Counties. Carrie is placing trail counter machines at various points along these trails. The Navajo Nation will soon be developing 80 miles of recreational trails in the Chuska Mountain range, complimenting the rec. trails being developed in the Zuni Mtns. The Pueblo of Laguna is developing bike and pedestrian trails connecting all six of their Pueblo Villages.
- E. Trail of the Ancients Scenic Byway is Nationally Designated:** President Trump signed the "Reviving America's Scenic Byways Act of 2019" into law re-establishing the Scenic Byway Program. This provided the NWRTPO the opportunity to undertake a demanding process to pursue national designation for parts of our New Mexico TOA byway portion. RTPO and COG staff submitted the 2020 application for national designation for portions of our New Mexico Trail of the Ancients Scenic Byway. The entire TOA byway corridor is shared by Counties in the 4-Corners region of Utah, Arizona, New Mexico and Colorado; the Utah and Colorado corridors are already nationally designated. **We received news that major portions of our New Mexico corridor are now designated as a National Byway corridor!** With the return of the federal Scenic Byway Program after a multi-year period when the program went away, **we are reconstructing the TOA Byway Council for New Mexico, and undertaking the challenging responsibility shared by participating counties to monitor and improve the national corridor, along with stronger participation in funding the byway, in collaboration with NMDOT staff. Staff submitted an application to update our Corridor Management Plan as the first rendition was done in November, 2008. This was recently awarded for funding in 2024.**
- F. Major Funding from Federal Sources:** The Federal Govt. and USDOT is providing funding for transportation development in billions of dollars – far beyond anything we've ever seen before, in some cases with short application timeframes. Members are encouraged to become familiar with these opportunities and take advantage of them which will be available thru 2026.
- G. Mandatory T/LPA Certification Training:** NMDOT is requiring mandatory T/LPA Certification Training; the first opportunity in Farmington is already past; the **next opportunity happened in Gallup in August 16 – 17 at the Down Town Conference Center – 204 W. Coal Ave, and was well attended by our RTPO members. If RTPO members do not take this training, your govt. will be ineligible to receive federal funding for transportation projects for the next 2 years, for any of our member govt.s who have not yet attended, the opportunity exists to travel to other trainings throughout our state in the upcoming months.**
- H. News, Training and Funding Opportunities:** The following training and funding opportunities have recently emerged:
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